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Election  
8.14.03  
PATENT

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 3495.0104-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AUG 18 2003

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In re Application of: )  
Marc ALIZON et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1648  
Application No.: 09/986,634 ) Examiner: J. Parkin  
Filed: November 9, 2001 )  
For: NUCLEIC ACID-BASED METHODS FOR THE DETECTION )  
OF HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS TYPE 2 (HIV-2)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a restriction requirement dated June 16, 2003, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group 1, claims 16-21; Group II, claims 22-25; and Group III, claims 26-29.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group II, claims 22-25, drawn to a method for preparing a recombinant HIV-2 peptide, classified in class 435, subclass 69.1.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)

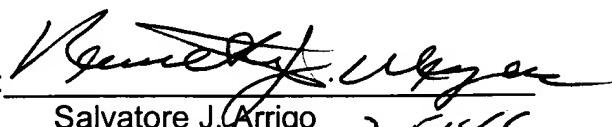
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge  
any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 14, 2003

By:

  
Salvatore J. Arrigo 25146  
Reg. No. 46,063  
Telephone: 202-408-4160  
Facsimile: 202-408-4400  
E-mail: arrigos@finnegan.com

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)